

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Department of Mental Health (Mental Health)			Date of Report: September 9, 2011		
Sex Offender Commitment Program (SOCP)					
FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TARGET DATE
Finding 1: Because Mental Health has not Tracked the Reasons Offenders Did Not Qualify as Sexual Violent Predators (SVP), it Cannot Effectively Identify Trends and Implement Changes to Increase Efficiency	<i>To enable it to track trends and streamline processes, Mental Health should expand the use of its database to capture more specific information about the offenders whom the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (Corrections) refers to it and the outcomes of the screenings and evaluations it conducts.</i>	Recommendation has been accepted and Mental Health is working on implementing corrective actions.	<p>Mental Health has identified database enhancements that will enable SOCP to track more specific information related to victims, offenders, offenses, screening results, evaluations results, referral decisions and actions taken by the District Attorneys and the courts. These changes will enable Mental Health to track trends and streamline processes.</p> <p><u>Status Update:</u> On August 1, 2011, the initial proposal (above) was submitted to the information technology team for approval and required research and analysis.</p> <p>On August 26, 2011, the information technology team and the Sex Offender Commitment Program Staff or "Project Team" have discussed results of research and analysis and have begun plans for program development.</p> <p>The Project Team's initial forecast of the required implementation (design, development, testing and deployment) is approximately 16 to 18 months. Estimated target completion date is January 31, 2013.</p>	Cynthia Rodriguez, Legal and Forensic Services Division; Robert Lucas, Forensic Services Programs; Karen Gillham, Forensic Services Programs	January 31, 2013

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Department of Mental Health (Mental Health)			Date of Report: September 9, 2011		
Sex Offender Commitment Program (SOCP)					
FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TARGET DATE
Finding 2: Corrections and Mental Health's Processes for Identifying and Evaluating SVP are not as Efficient as they Could be and at Times Have Resulted in the State Performing Unnecessary Work	<i>To eliminate duplicative effort and increase efficiency, Corrections should not make unnecessary referrals to Mental Health. Corrections and Mental Health should jointly revise the structured screening instrument so that the referral process adheres more closely to the law's intent. For example, Corrections should better leverage the time and work it already conducts by including the following steps in its referral process:</i> • Determine whether the offender committed a predatory offense. • Review results from any previous screenings and evaluations that Mental Health completed and considering whether the most recent parole violation or offense might alter the previous decision. • Use STATIC -99R to assess the risk that an offender will reoffend.	Recommendation has been accepted and Mental Health is working on implementing corrective actions.	Mental Health and Corrections are already working together to further streamline the referral process to eliminate duplicative effort and increase efficiency. <u>Status Update:</u> Mental Health began meeting bi-weekly with Corrections in July 2011. These meetings have focused on referrals, access to records, systems and equipment.	Cynthia Rodriguez, Legal and Forensic Services Division; Robert Lucas, Forensic Services Programs; Karen Gillham, Forensic Services Programs	This is an ongoing collaboration.
	<i>To reduce costs for unnecessary evaluations, Mental Health should either issue a regulation or seek a statutory amendment to clarify that when resolving a difference of opinion between the two initial evaluators of an offender, Mental Health must seek the opinion of a fourth evaluator only when a third evaluator concludes that the offender meets the SVP criteria.</i>	Recommendation has been accepted and Mental Health is working on implementing corrective actions.	Mental Health is evaluating options to reduce costs for unnecessary evaluations. <u>Status Update:</u> Mental Health is preparing rulemaking packages to submit to the Office of Administrative Law. The rulemaking package will include the submission of up to three regulation proposals by December 31, 2011.	Cynthia Rodriguez, Legal and Forensic Services Division; Robert Lucas, Forensic Services Programs; Karen Gillham, Forensic Services Programs	December 31, 2011

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Department of Mental Health (Mental Health)			Date of Report: September 9, 2011		
Sex Offender Commitment Program (SOCP)					
FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TARGET DATE
Finding 3: Mental Health Has Used Contractors to Perform its Evaluations Due to Limited Progress in Increasing its Staff	<i>To ensure that it will have enough qualified staff to perform evaluations, Mental Health should continue its efforts to obtain approval of a new position classification for evaluators. If the State Personnel Board (SPB) approves the new classification, Mental Health should take steps to recruit qualified individuals as quickly as possible. Additionally, Mental Health should continue its efforts to train its consulting psychologists to conduct evaluations.</i>	Recommendation has been accepted and Mental Health is working on implementing corrective actions.	<p>Mental Health has submitted its SVP Evaluator classification proposal to the Department of Personnel Administration. It is anticipated that the SPB will hear the proposal in the month of August 2011. SOCP will immediately recruit SVP Evaluators once this classification is approved by SPB and position authority has been granted. SOCP consulting psychologists currently attend trainings on legal and clinical practices related to full evaluations and trends in the forensics field. Efforts to train consulting psychologists to conduct evaluations will continue.</p> <p>In addition, Mental Health plans to propose legislative amendments to extend its authorization to use contractors for all types of evaluations prior to the expiration of its current authorization of January 1, 2012.</p> <p><u>Status Update:</u> SB 179 (Pavley), if approved, allows an extension to use contract evaluators until January 1, 2013. Since July 1, 2011, Mental Health is actively recruiting Consulting Psychologists and a Chief Psychologist. Twelve candidates have been interviewed for the Consulting Psychologist vacancies and tentative offers will be made in the first week and second week of September 2011. Interviews will be conducted in September to fill the Chief Psychologist vacancy.</p> <p>The SVP Evaluator Classification proposal will be heard by SPB in October 2011.</p> <p>Evaluator training (both internal staff and contract evaluators) will take place on September 7-9, 2011. (See enclosed file, page 1).</p>	Cynthia Rodriguez, Legal and Forensic Services Division; Robert Lucas, Forensic Services Programs; Karen Gillham, Forensic Services Programs	Ongoing

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Department of Mental Health (Mental Health)			Date of Report: September 9, 2011		
Sex Offender Commitment Program (SOCP)					
FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TARGET DATE
Finding 4: Mental Health has not Reported to the Legislature on its Efforts to Hire State Employees as Evaluators or on the Impact of Jessica's Law on the Program	<i>To ensure that the Legislature can provide effective oversight of the program, Mental Health should complete and submit as soon as possible its reports to the Legislature about Mental Health's efforts to hire state employees to conduct evaluations and about the impact of Jessica's Law on the program.</i>	On July 14, 2011, Mental Health submitted a combined report to the Legislature about Mental Health's efforts to hire state employees to conduct evaluations for the period July 2009 through January 2011. (See enclosed file, pages 1-7).	<u>Status Update:</u> Mental Health plans to submit the July 10, 2011 report about Mental Health's efforts to hire state employees to conduct evaluations, and the report on the impact of Jessica's Law to the Legislature by October 1, 2011.	Cynthia Rodriguez, Legal and Forensic Services Division; Robert Lucas, Forensic Services Programs; Karen Gillham, Forensic Services Programs	October 1, 2011